

The Newsletter of the Brisbane Visual Arts Community

JUNE 2023, ISSUE 120









We are missing a President's Report this month as it has vanished into the ether and Susan is on retreat in the Blue Mountains.

The good news for the month is that BVAC has been granted an extention of our lease at the Hub for another 10 years. This will allow the group to develop new ideas without the uncertainty of a shorter lease time.

In celebration of this, I thought that it might be a good idea to have a look at how the Brisbane City Council is trying to develop Creative Brisbane.

I will go first to the Creative Sparks program. This program is designed to assist artists and not-for-profit community arts and cultural organisations to create and present work. Grants of up to \$10,000 per application are available for the creation and presentation of projects that will be shared with the public (either online or at a venue/location within the Brisbane local government area.)

bvac2015@gmail.com PO Box 7098 Holland Park East Q 4121

contact:

Applications for the Creative Sparks program open on 6 November 2023 and close on 11 December 2023, and are open to artists from all backgrounds and career stages working across all artforms and practices to test, develop and realise ideas that result in a public showing. Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application by mid April 2024. You have lots of time to prepare your submission.

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BVAC NEWS

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BVAC COMMUNITY ARTS EXPO A weekend of demos, workshops & sales!

MEMBER NEWS

WILD ART COMPETITION Invitation to attend Opening Night & Presentation of Awards

WORKSHOPS & OPPORTUNITIES

MATERIALLY DESIGNED EXHIBITION Workshops, Exhibition & Parade: Art about Fashion

LIMITED PALETTE EXHIBITION Redland Yurara Art Gallery

THE LAST WORD

Lions & Youth Peace Posters

Thinking about it, that could lead us to another BVAC supported Professional Development Seminar - Grant Writing. Most writing tasks tend to send people running, but the ability to be an effective Grant Writer is a skill that probably rivals "Curating" in the great unknown of art practice. Our Sandra Evans has the grant writing skill in spades - our Hub would not be the place it is without her skill.

As an ideas space, I turn to a criticism that emerges after each Pop-Up Shop - why do we hold the Pop-Up at the Auditorium at the Botanical Gardens? It is not well known, there is little passing foot traffic, the Auditorium is not well signed, and when the weather is good, parking is a nightmare. So why?

The answer comes down to cost. The Auditorium is a large space that is available for rent at a rate that we can afford. It comes with kitchen facilities, and tables and chairs are included in the price.

Many other halls charge by the hour. When you add together two hours for set up, five hours for trading, one hour for demounting @\$40 per hour (the cheapest I could find), that is \$320 for just one day - and most would require us to hire our own tables and bring your own chairs.

You may like to see what is available on the council website: https://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/community-and-safety/community-support/creative-brisbane/creative-spaces

So learn to love and value our Mt Coot-tha Auditorium. It is not perfect but it is a long way ahead of any alternative. Just a few random thoughts on this Sunday morning.





William Dobell Drawing Prize - 2023

It is obviously Award Season in the Art World and this month we are able to report that the winner of the \$30,000 "Wiliam Dobell Prize for Drawing" has been wond by Brisbane artist, Jane Grealy.



Jane Grealy

Maria's Garden, Scheme C

Winner: Dobell Drawing Prize 2023

The biennial Dobell Drawing Prize is Australia's leading prize for drawing. The \$30,000 acquisitive prize is presented by the National Art School in partnership with the Sir William Dobell Art Foundation and explores the enduring importance of drawing within contemporary art practice. The winning work will enter the National Art School's significant collection, built over the past 120 years.

The work was selected from a pool of 64 finalists by judges Catherine O'Donnell, an artist and NAS alumna, NAS Galleries Manager and Senior Curator Katrina Cashman, and Paula Latos-Valier from the Sir William Dobell Art Foundation.

Catherine O'Donnell said: "Jane's work is beautifully executed, very skilful but also expanding drawing to a different level with her layering of architectural elements. It was a unanimous choice. We did look at lots of different works, the standard was very high, so it was a tough decision, but we came back to this one. It's about so many things, the balance between nature and the built environment, about time passing, the past, present and future. The work looks outstanding in the gallery. A well deserved winner."

Grealy's winning work, *Maria's Garden*, *Scheme C*, took three months to complete and is an homage to Brisbane's disappearing back gardens, many of which are being swallowed up by new developments, extensions and swimming pools. The wire-frame architectural drawing superimposed on the garden in New Farm is a hint of its likely fate.

In her artist's statement, Grealy drew attention to the detail contained in the work and the meaning behind it.

"Maria's philosophy, "waste not, want not," is in those details," she wrote. "Maria has worked hard since she arrived here as a teenager from war-torn Italy. Through hard work and thrift, her garden supplied her family with food."

"Once Maria passes away, the land is so valuable that the garden will be gone in 10 minutes," said Grealy. "It's really a documentation of her garden and in it you can see the story of her life and that of many immigrants."

Grealy's practise is inspired by her work as an architectural illustrator, using observations of both existing and imagined buildings, landscapes and spaces.

"When I was young, I was told I could not be an artist. There was no art at my high school," she said. "I became an architectural illustrator and while I was always working to other people's specifications, I did my own arts apprenticeship, and in the end it gave me access to a life I'd always wanted as a practising artist."

Jane Grealy lives and works in Brisbane.

The Dobell Drawing Prize is one of the highest value prizes for drawing in <u>Australia</u>. In 2019, the prize was relocated to the National Art School, having previously been held in conjunction with the Archibald Prize, Sulman Prize, and Wynne Prize at the Gallery of New South Wales.

BVAC Pop-Up Shop







Helena converted our sign to a USEFUL sign, and a small sample of the amazing art our member groups create.

Our mid-year Pop-Up Shop was a great success. These Pop-Up shops have been running at the Auditorium at the Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens since 2014 and one lady from APAT even reminded me that she had participated in our very first pop-up style shop at the Polo Club, at Riverside in the city in 2012.

Some of our groups measure the success of our BVAC Pop-Up Shop entirely from a commercial perspective. It is very exciting to make sales and just to know that people like your work enough to part with their hard earned cash. We didn't turn anybody into "overnight" millionaires, but those who made sales seemed to be happy with their lot.

My measure of success for the Pop-Up Shop is the external connections that groups make as a result of seeing what other groups are doing. My endorphins rise as I listen to ideas that have blossomed at the Pop-Up Shop.

APAT was a stand out group in this regard at this show, but it was a very excited Amrita, from the Watercolour Society, who brought my attention to the possibilities of a collaboration between the two groups. This is crosspollination at work in art - it would be exciting if some members of these groups worked together to create something "different".

Thank you to Anna-Margot for her hard work in bringing the event together. The success of the event always comes from groups working together. The weekend represents pretty good value for artists in any group, especially as we pay a small fee to hire tables and coverings and at the end we just have to roll them back to the storage area. The weather we can't control, but at least our stands remain nice and dry inside.



Sunshine Beaders sales team at work



Lots of interest across the 3 days



The Watercolour Society





Ceramic Arts QLD





Australian Porcelain Art Teachers



Scattered Arts



Western Suburbs Clayworkers



& BVAC's technical advisor Allie.



The Botanic Gardens are a beautiful backdrop to our Pop-Up - & no snakes this time!



Notes from BVAC Meeting June 8, 2023

Attendees: Anna-Margot Collins (QEG), Fiona Benson (PAQ), Judy Hamilton (WSC), Lyn McGlade (WSC), Steven Norris (AWCG), Richard McLaren (AFW), Kirsten Farr (CAQ), Joanna Fear (QBG), Teresa Skirving (WSQ), Wendy Goode (SA),

Apologies: Susan Hoy, ATASDA, Peter Rayson, WCQ, Pauline Stevens, SB,

Business Arising from Previous Minutes: None

President's Report: I am sorry that I'm not going to be able to be with you all at the June Meeting but I'm sure Anna-Margot will keep the meeting short and productive.

I have finalised the feedback from those groups who submitted the response and Anna-Margot has sent it to you.

Please have a look at what's been identified and give it some thought before we come together at the July Meeting to redefine our strategic direction for the next 2-3 years.

Please provide Anna-Margot with feedback on the following items:

- 1. Signage on the BVAC Building
- 2. Professional Development proposals and ideas. These can either be provided by you or we can find a speaker.

Best of luck to those involved in the Pop Up shop this coming weekend and heartfelt thanks to Anna-Margot and team for the organisation. Unfortunately, due to ill health I won't be able to attend but do wish you every success.

Treasurers Report: Income has been very consistent over the past couple of years, almost to the dollar. Our in-creased spending on the Hub has resulted in an almost square last 12 months. A great outcome. I have lodged our Annual Return this week, so we are up to date there.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Building and Maintenance: Water efficiency audit was undertaken and full report will be sent to us. **Website Report:** We can now create emails for the profile pages and Kirsten will be sending out information to groups.

Pop-up Shop 2-4 June 2023: Wrap Up: A few last minute table cancellations meant the hall looked a bit sparce. BVAC Pop-Up Shops do have a cancellation policy. Overall sales seemed to be on average. Some groups having great sales. Good advert in Weekend Notes, thanks to Wendy. Numbers through the door seemed a bit low but were steady and the raffle did well which shows we had a fair amount of people around.

A few suggestions of ways to improve the pop-up shop will be taken into consideration when we do the layout for next Pop-Up. These are listed them at the end of the minutes. One big change is to opening hours: 10-4 Friday, 10-4 Saturday and 10-3 Sunday (early morning is very slow). We missed having food and beverages available and are still looking for a viable option.

Pauline did a fantastic job of packaging up the prizes. Prize winners were, Gay of Sunshine Beaders/Scattered Arts, Annette of the Creative Glass Guild, Marjorie a member of the general public and Allie of Qld Enamel Guild.

Booking interest letters will be going out for the November Pop-up shop later this month.

Art Expo 22-23 July: All is going well. Marquee is booked with a divider so will have 2 rooms for workshops, Perrin of Lilly Lee has volunteered to do the food stall with her group, which is great.



NOTES FROM BVAC MEETING cont'd

All workshop slots are filled now and there will be demos and mini events happening all around the Hub. If you see a workshop you are interested in you book early, the full list will be in the newsletter this month.

General Business:

Group Signage for the Building: These signs will give your group permanent advertising at the Hub. Quote for an aluminium sign A2 size 460x610mm is \$80. Can be either landscape or portrait. If you wish to be in the first order, BVAC requires your artwork in a high resolution PDF by Friday 16th June so they can be hung for the Art Expo. Participation is not compulsory.

Scattered Arts "Wild": Entries have closed with over 90 entries. Everyone is invited to the opening night Thursday 15th June at Bag End Studio, Unit 19/190 Station Rd, Yeerongpilly.

BVAConnex: A suggestion was made to add a "What's Happening at Your Group" page to BVAConnex. Each month, you need to provide Anna-Margot with one or two sentences about something your group has coming up, or the size of your group, or something new you are trying. Anna-Margot will collate and forward to Judy for a page for the newsletter.

Professional Development Workshop "Curating an Exhibition": Each group to nominate two representatives for this event, which is limited to 20 participants. Costs covered by BVAC. After the event, tables at the cafe over the road have been booked for a debriefing and late lunch.

Meeting closed at 10:55am

Next Meeting: July 13th, 2023 9:30 am at Bag End Studio Unit 19/190 Station Road, Yeerongpilly.

SUGGESTIONS TO IMPROVE THE POP-UP SHOPS

- Is it possible to put something on the grass outside by the fish ponds to attract people. Anna-Margot to look into this.
- Could we have a slide show going on the back wall to make the big empty wall look more appealing?
- Run a peoples choice award with each participating group getting a plinth to put a selected work on for the general public to vote for their favourite, to bring in more interaction.
- Playing music over the weekend classic rock suggested
- Having mini workshops or demonstrations running in the back courtyard, more for the mid-year one depending on the heat in November
- Find someone to run a café/ food option for the event, looking for suggestions

If anyone has any suggestions for ways to make the event better, please send them to Anna-Margot at bvac2015@gmail.com We are always looking for different ideas to make the event better.

Art Expo 22-23 July 2023

Brisbane Visual Arts Community

Community Arts Expo













A weekend of demonstrations, workshops+sales!

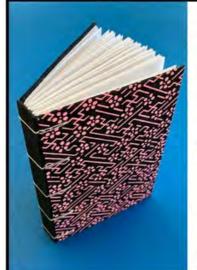
22-23 July





brisbanevisualartscommunity bvac.org.au

140 Weller Rd Tarragindi



Make your own book!

In just a couple of hours, turn paper, thread, board and cloth into a beautiful Secret Belgian bound book.

This is a perfect place to begin learning some of the skills of the bookbinding craft.

If you give us some of your time, we will give you all the materials you need, lend you the tools and teach you something new.

Cost: \$25

Date: Sunday, 23 July 2023

Time: 2pm-4pm

To book: Call Andrew on 0450 715 221 (maximum 10).

Art Expo 22-23 July 2023

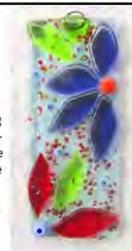
Italian Gira Sole light catchers

11:30 am-2 pm Saturday - Max number of students : 6

Cost per person: \$70 - 2 light catchers per person

This 2.5hr workshop is designed to give you a taste of glass fusing using traditional fusing methods using Italian sheet glass and accessories. Students will experience using tool, techniques and methods used to nip, score and cut glass and arrange glass shapes, to create transparent floral designs and patterns. Small copper rings will be fusing in between the layers of glass to make a hanging loop.

During this 'taster' lesson, student will have the chance to make 2 light catchers that will be kiln fired and sent to the student at a later date.



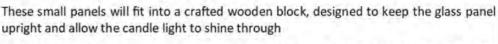
Glass Tea-Light catchers



2pm-4:30 pm Saturday - Max number of students : 6

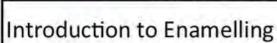
Cost per person: \$70 – 2 light catchers per person + 1 wooden stand (Men's Shed made)

This 2.5hr workshop is designed to give you a taste of glass fusing using traditional fusing method using Italian sheet glass and accessories. Students will experience using tool, techniques and methods used to nip, score and cut glass and arrange glass shapes, to create transparent floral designs and patterns.



During this 'taster' lesson, student will have the chance to make 2 tea light catchers that will be kiln fired and sent to the student at a later date. Students can take wooden stand with them at the end of the lesson.

To Book either workshop email Liz@creativeartyfacts.com.au



Two Pairs of Earrings

Join Us! Enamelling is an ancient art using heat to fuse glass to metals. Create interesting and unique designs in this class. All you need is your imagination and a little guidance from our expert

In this two hour class you will make two pairs of earrings! The first pair will use a stenciling technique to create your vision. The second pair will be made with crackle technique to make your design. These earrings can either be made to be pierced or clip on with quality findings.

Sunday from 2pm-4pm

Cost \$45 book by email queenslandenamellersguild@gmail.com







Join Pauline, of Scattered Arts, on the upstairs Veranda on Sunday for an hour or so of beading fun making "Tantalizing Teapots", a great ornament for your yard. You will combine a lovely assortment of beads to create a waterfall of colour pouring from the spout of one of these charming little teapots.

No Booking required just rock up and if there is a spare chair you are in.

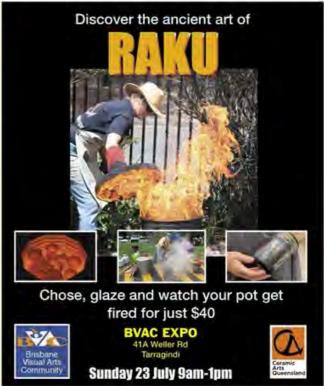
Cost \$50.00 everything included

Art Expo 22-23 July 2023



Papermakers and Artists Qld will be running a workshop on Saturday from 9-11:00 Details will be listed on their website early July, but I can confirm that papermaking will be part of it.

www.papermakersqld.org.au



ATASDA Workshops

For bookings go to the ATASDA webpage and follow the link to eventbrite

Saturday Afternoon 2-4 pm Tunnel Books
Sunday Morning 9-11 am Make a rag rug
Sunday Morning 11:30-1:30 Scrappy Slow Stitch

Prices and bookings at atasda.org.au

These workshops all involve using fabrics in new and interesting ways, and the Make A RAG RUG is a great way to use up you bag of pieces I will use someday bag.

Demonstrations on Pottery making will be on under the stairs on Saturday and Sunday with Western Suburbs
Clayworkers, Watch a lump of clay turn into a beautiful pot, see a blob turn into a bird, these feats of magic will be preformed during the day both days, and you might even get your hands dirty giving it a



Paint a piece of JEWELLERY WORKSHOP SUNDAY 9am-11am

Come and join us for 2 hours and go home with 2 porcelain necklace discs hand decorated by yourself with directions from an award winning porcelain artist. You will use paint, stencils, and tape to paint on a porcelain blank with your original design. Julie will help you every step of the way to create something you will be proud to wear.

The porcelain pieces will be kiln fired for permanency which you can be picked up in the afternoon or she can post them to you for an extra \$10

Cost \$40

Only 15 places available.julesart@optusnet.com.au



Lessons for a Newsletter Editor

On the weekend of 2-4 June 2023, Anna-Margot tasked me with consigning every issue of BVAConnex since 2012 onto the BVAC hard drive. What I succeeded in doing was losing/misplacing all of the 2018 newsletters.

Eventually, I managed to find them as Publisher files, but all pdf versions are still out in the ether somewhere. I have to say that it has been a great experience looking back through eleven years of newsletters and the events and experiences our groups have provided over the years is absolutely mind-blowing.

A quick message to my son never elicits a quick reply but I know it will eventuate. Last time he visited, he showed me the short cut to saving files to an external hard drive. By the time I needed to use it again, I had forgotten. So I asked for help. Evidently there is a difference if you use the "shift" key rather than the "Ctrl" key. I was successfully moving them, and then copying them back to my computer until I reached 2018.

With my new found skill, I quickly moved the files from 2019 - 2022 to the hard drive, but what to do with 2018. One online file converter insisted on changing the font on the first page and then copying the first page upside down. Not good. Zamzar, another program, converted each individual page to a pdf. Also not good.

Finally, thanks to good old Microsoft Office, I have found that it is really simple to convert a Publisher file to a PDF. Publisher was my go to program before Kerrie introduced me to Canva. Canva is an excellent program but it can bring out the worst in users when you find that you didn't put your cursor in the right place.

Computers are a means to an end but we are not friends.

Materially Designed

This upcoming RQAS Exhibition and Fashion Parade "Materially Designed" will explore Art in all mediums about fashion. This event showcases the creative talents of our local artists and fashion brands, as well as the importance of sustainable wardrobes. We look forward to seeing what work you are inspired to create!

f RqasBris U

@petrie_terrace_gallery



4TH AUGUST TO 3RD SEPTEMBER 2023

- · FASHION PARADE: SATURDAY 5TH AUGUST
- · AWARDS NIGHT: FRIDAY 11TH AUGUST
- ARTISTS TALK& WORKSHOP WITH JANE MILBURN, SATURDAY WORKSHOP ON 26TH AUGUST

Entries are currently open
Entry forms due: Wednesday, 5th of July. 2023
See the Royal Queensland Art Society website
for all the details:

https://rqas.com.au/event/materially-designed-2023/

Petrie Terrace Gallery
Open: Wednesday - Sunday 10am to 3:30pm
Entry is free, except for ticketed events
gallery@rqas.com.au | rqas.com.au | 073367 1977



REGENERATING YOUR CLOTHES (AND YOUR AGENCY IN THE WARDROBE) WITH JANE MILBURN

SATURDAY 26TH AUGUST-12:30 TO 3:30PM AS PART OF THE MATERIALLY DESIGNED EXHIBITION JANE WILL BE FACILITATING THIS MINDFUL MENDING WORKSHOP.



This is a hands-on session to inspire you to look differently at the clothes that already exist in your wardrobe and opshops. As a self-taught sewist who makes or adapts most of her clothes, the session begins with a "show and tell" of garments from Jane's own wardrobe. Please bring a few garments from your wardrobe that you love but aren't wearing for some reason. We discuss redesign concepts and revival possibilities, and upcycle using hand-stitch within the timeframe available. Along the way, you will learn the basics of mending by making your own needle roll and learning to hand-stitch.

FEE: \$90, (\$80 FOR RQAS MEMBERS)



SLOW CLOTHING TALK WITH JANE MILBURN SATURDAY 26TH AUGUST-11AM TO 12PM

Being more engaged with the clothes already in your wardrobe is a way to drive systemic change as well as bringing with it financial, ecological health and wellbeing benefits. This is a talk about regenerating our agency and being empowered through skills, knowledge and a desire to assemble a wardrobe of garments that we want to wear and know how to keep in service for as long as possible. During this session, Jane will share slow clothing philosophy and actions for reducing our material footprint: think, natural, local, quality, few, care, make, revive, adapt and salvage. Jane will also share learning from her recent Churchill Fellowship travels when she met many people reclaiming their agency through acts of styling, mending, making, codesigning, redesigning and upcycling to appreciate and value the natural resources that go into our garments.

COST: \$15, (\$5 RQAS MEMBERS) includes morning tea



ART EXHIBITION

TWO COLOURS PLUS BLACK AND WHITE

Come and visit us every Saturday and Sunday 10am to 4pm



FROM
SATURDAY
10th JUNE





TO SUNDAY 2nd JULY

WHERE: REDLAND YURARA ART GALLERY,
PINKLANDS RESERVE, CNR DINWOODIE RD,
262 CLEVELAND-REDLAND BAY RD, THORNLANDS

Website: www.redlandyurara.com.au











The Last Word

For over three decades, Lions clubs around the world have been sponsoring a very special art contest in schools and youth groups. Creating peace posters gives children everywhere the chance to express their visions of peace and inspire the world through art and creativity.



Anja Rožen, a 13-year old elementary school student from Slovenia recently won the international contest Plakat MIRU. Her work was chosen from entries from 600,000 children from all over the world.

"My poster represents the earth that connects and unites us. People stick to each other. If one person let go, the rest will fall. We are all connected to our planet and to each other, but unfortunately we are little aware of it," said the young creator. All this portrayed using the technique of knitting.

If you know a young person who might be interested in participating in this competition go to: https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/start-our-

approach/youth/peace-poster

BRISBANE VISUAL ARTS COMMUNITY (BVAC) COMMITTEE CONTACTS

President

Susan Hoy susanhoy@bigpond.com ATASDA

Secretary

Anna-Margot Collins bvac2015@gmail.com Queensland Enamellers Guild

Treasurer

Peter Rayson ninetynine.94@optusnet.com.au Watercolour Society QLD

Bookings Co-ordinator

Sandra Evans wellershillartshub.bookings@gmail.com APAT

Vice-President & Newsletter

Judy Hamilton jrhylleh@hotmail.com Western Suburbs Clayworkers

Committee

ATASDA: Susan Hoy

Ceramic Arts Queensland: Kirstin Farr: Website

Creative Glass Guild, QLD:

Lilley Lee: Perrin Millard

Papermakers Artists, QLD: Joanna Faber

Scattered Arts: Wendy Goode: PO Box Monitor

Sunshine Beaders: Pauline Stevens: **Tablecloths**

Watercolour Society, QLD: Theresa Skirving

Q Bookbinders Guild: Joanna Fear: **Building & Maintenance**

Art West Community Gallery: Steve Norris

WS Clayworkers: Lyn McGlade

Art from Within: Richard McLaren

contact: bvac2015@gmail.com or PO Box 7098, Holland Park East QLD 4121